

GOAL-HUNGRY WYCOMBE TOO GOOD FOR CLAPTON

Sports Mail Special Report

LOWLY-PLACED Isthmian League team Clapton entertained Wycombe Wanderers this afternoon with a team depleted by injury and including three reserves and they got a tanning for Wycombe were six up at the interval and finished up winners by 8-1.

Clapton: McAlpine; Wilkinson, Hart; Chandler, Pope, Thompson, Payne, Barber, Vousden, Hayward, Gladstone.

Wycombe Wanderers: Syrett; Beck, Moring; Truett, Fisher, Weaver; Worley, Trott, Bates, Fryer, Free.

Referee: A. T. Jones.

Changing positions with great speed the Wycombe forwards were in fine form moving surely and swiftly on mud.

A three-goal burst in the first 13 minutes shattered Clapton. FREE opened the scoring after

seven minutes when a defender slipped.

A well-contrived goal put Wanderers two up. Trott judged his downward header to a nicety after Worley's cross split the defence and Ron FRYER sent a fine angled shot into goal.

Then BATES beat centre-half Pope and scored with a great shot.

In the 35th minute a first-time volley from BATES completely

beat goalkeeper McAlpine.

The Wycombe team's quick shooting policy was certainly paying-off. Cliff TROTT saw his drive roll slowly into the net after his first shot had been partially saved by McAlpine.

Weaver hit a post for the third time before BATES scored the sixth goal just before the interval.

Half-time: Clapton 0, Wycombe 6.

With such a big lead, the Wanderers had eased up considerably, but Bates sent FRYER through for the seventh goal after 62 minutes.

POPE scored a consolation goal for Clapton.

Then JOHN BECK sent a 50-yard drive into the top of the Clapton net.

RESULT:

CLAPTON	1
WYCOMBE W.	8

WYCOMBE ARE HAPPY WITH 8

Clapton 1, Wycombe 8

WYCOMBE, in devastating form, paved the way for this handsome victory with a three-goal burst in the opening minutes.

Clapton could not match the Wanderers' speed, and their young forwards—average age under 19—were outfought.

But a thought should be spared for veteran right back Laurie Wilkinson, a hundred per cent trier, and for goalkeeper Eddie McAlpine.

The goalkeeper made a courageous save in the second half when he hurled his mud-bespattered body at the feet of Wycombe centre forward Bates.

Wycombe were powerfully led by Bates, who scored three goals.

They moved with smooth precision in the first half and built up a five-goal lead.

They could easily have had more, notably when Wilkinson kicked on the line and a Bates shot was deflected and hit a post.

Worley had a good game on the right wing and formed a thrustful partnership with Trott.

In the second half Wycombe were less on the mark, perhaps feeling the battle more than won. Even so, right back John Beck scored a great goal from 35 yards.

Other Wycombe scorers were Fryer (2), Free, and Trott.

Centre half Ken Pope got Clapton's goal.